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Applicants: Yura Hirofumi, et al.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant is submitting herewith a copy of the European Search Report and Form PTO-1449 listing references for consideration by the Examiner. Also submitted herewith is a legible copy of each reference. The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Feb. 17, 2003 John P. Murtaugh  
Date Signature of Attorney